

Projection exposure method and system

Publication number: AU2747999
Publication date: 1999-10-18
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Classification:
- **international:** G03F7/20; G03F7/20;
- **european:** G03F7/20A; G03F7/20T16; G03F7/20T26
Application number: AU19990027479D 19990316
Priority number(s): JP19980079263 19980326; WO1999JP01

Also published as:

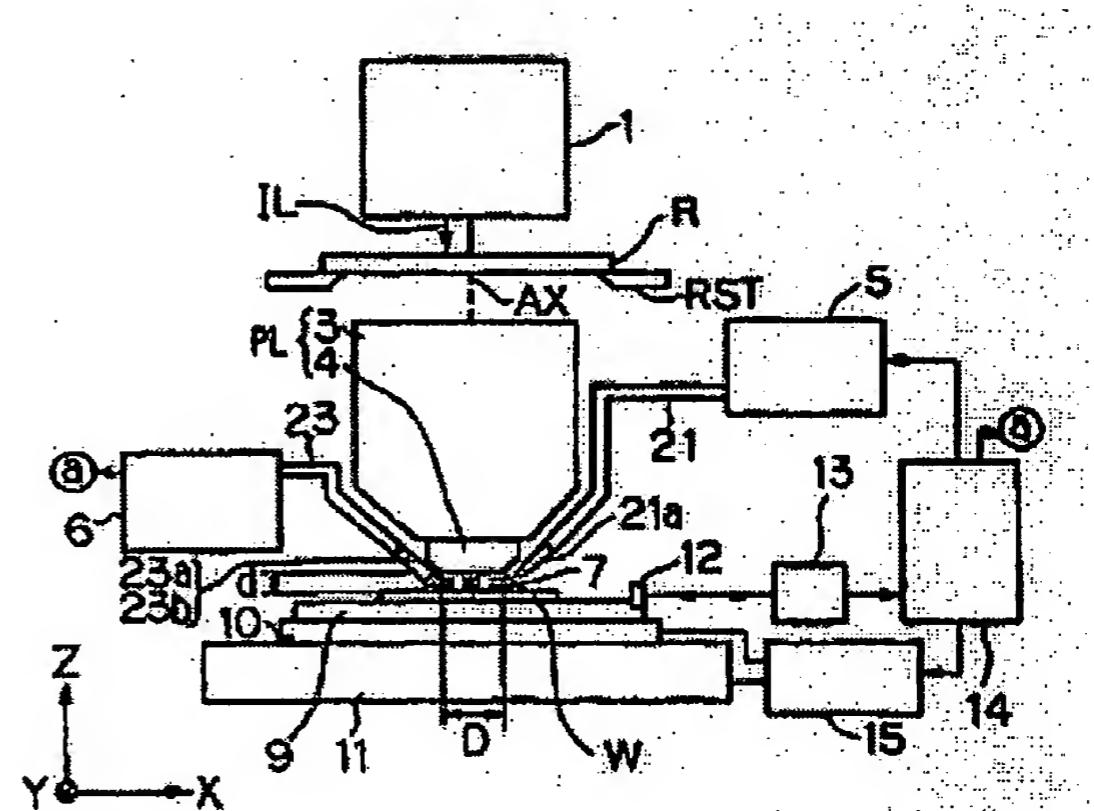


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Abstract not available for AU2747999

Abstract of corresponding document: **WO9949504**

A projection exposure method capable of keeping a liquid (7) filled between a projection optical system (PL) and a wafer (W) even while the wafer (W) is being moved when a liquid immersion method is used to conduct an exposure, wherein a discharge nozzle (21a) and inflow nozzles (23a, 23b) are disposed so as to hold a lens (4) at the tip end of the projection optical system (PL) in an X direction. When the wafer (W) is moved in a -X direction by an XY stage (10), a liquid (7) controlled to a preset temperature is supplied from a liquid supply device (5) via a supply pipe (21) and the discharge nozzle (21a) so as to fill the portion between the lens (4) and the surface of the wafer (W) and the liquid (7) is recovered from the surface of the wafer (W) by a liquid supply device (6) via a recovery pipe (23) and the inflow nozzles (23a, 23b), the supply amount and recovery amount of the liquid (7) being regulated according to a moving speed of the wafer (W).



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特許協力条約に基づいて公開された国際出願



(51) 国際特許分類6 H01L 21/027, G03F 7/20	A1	(11) 国際公開番号 WO99/49504
		(43) 国際公開日 1999年9月30日 (30.09.99)
(21) 国際出願番号 PCT/JP99/01262	(31) 指定国 AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TI, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, 欧州特許 (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI特許 (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO特許 (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), ユーラシア特許 (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TI, TM)	
(22) 国際出願日 1999年3月16日 (16.03.99)	(32) 依頼書類 PCT/JP99/01262	
(36) 優先権データ 特願平10/79263 1998年3月26日 (26.03.98) JP	(33) 依頼調査報告書	
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(36) Abstract A projection exposure method capable of keeping a liquid (7) filled between a projection optical system (PL) and a wafer (W) even while the wafer (W) is being moved when a liquid immersion method is used to conduct an exposure, wherein a discharge nozzle (21a) and inflow nozzles (23a, 23b) are disposed so as to hold a lens (4) at the tip end of the projection optical system (PL) in an X direction. When the wafer (W) is moved in a -X direction by an XY stage (10), a liquid (7) controlled to a preset temperature is supplied from a liquid supply device (5) via a supply pipe (21) and the discharge nozzle (21a) so as to fill the portion between the lens (4) and the surface of the wafer (W) and the liquid (7) is recovered from the surface of the wafer (W) by a liquid supply device (6) via a recovery pipe (23) and the inflow nozzles (23a, 23b), the supply amount and recovery amount of the liquid (7) being regulated according to a moving speed of the wafer (W).		